

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1-2 were objected to. Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claims 1-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-2, 4-8, 14-16, 18, 20-21 and 32-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Thomasma (U.S. Pat. No. 2,002,721). Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thomasma in view of Engel (U.S. Pat. No. 4,850,061). Claims 9-11 and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thomasma in view of Eckerlein (U.S. Pat. No. 1,429,724). Claims 28-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thomasma in view of Hazar (U.S. Pat. No. 4,979,237). Claims 12-13, 17 and 25 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Amended claim 1 includes the subject matter of cancelled claims 14, 15, 26 and 27. Inasmuch as these claims were only rejected on formal matters, claim 1 and the remaining claims dependent therefrom should be allowable.

With respect to claim 32, in comparing the structures of the present invention and U.S. Patent No. 2,002,721, the nuts and bolts in the '721 patent loosen or tighten the post (3) which is a

connecting part of the seat (2) and the supporting frame (5). However, the connectors (38e, 38f) of the present invention combine or separate the seats (14a, 14b) and the supporting frame (50).

Therefore, claim 32 has a structure different from the '721 patent, and further the object and effect of the present application are different from the '721 patent.


New independent claims 35-38 place the allowable subject matter of claims 12, 13, 17 and 25 in independent form. Therefore, claims 35-38 should also be considered allowable.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in the present application, as they now stand, patentably distinguish over the references cited and applied by the Examiner and are, therefore, in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is in order, and such favorable action and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

However, if after reviewing the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is cordially invited to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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FIG.1

PRIOR ART

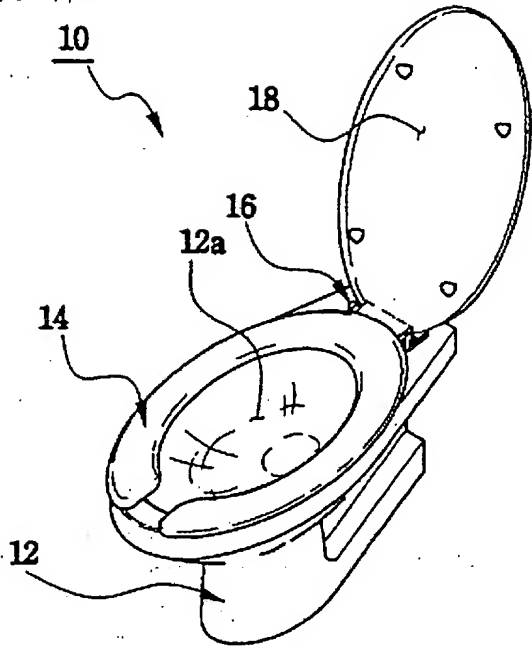


FIG.2

